

New ban on West Sussex coastal area

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NEW COAST BAN ON APRIL 1ST

Will include Worthing and Chanctonbury Rural Areas

Worthing is included in the banned coastal belt which, for reasons of operational security, is to become a protected area from April 1.

Eight orders have been made by the Secretary of State for War under the Defence (General) Regulations, the effect of which is to prohibit persons (who were not on April 1 resident in the protected area) from entering or being in that area after that date.

Certain persons, such as members of the Forces on duty, members of Parliament, and Government servants on duty are exempt from the operations of the orders.

General Permission

Other classes of person who are given general permission by the orders to enter or be in the area are:

(a) Persons engaged or employed on necessary business which cannot be deferred and which they cannot transact or carry on otherwise than by entering that protected area.

(b) Persons visiting their parents, parents-in-law, persons in loco parentis, husbands, or wives; provided that the person to be visited was ordinarily resident in the protected area on April 1, 1944.

(c) Parents or persons in loco parentis visiting their children or wards in the protected area, if under the age of 16 years.

(d) Persons visiting near relatives in the protected area who are seriously ill.

(e) Patients going to or being in a hospital or nursing home within the protected area and tubercular patients going to or being in a sanatorium within the protected area.

(f) Persons passing through the protected area by train or public service vehicle without breaking their journey in the protected area.

(g) Students or pupils of a university, college or school within the protected area.

(h) Persons taking up residence with a person resident in the protected area of whose household they are ordinarily members.

(i) Persons holding a certificate issued by a local authority that they have been rendered homeless as result of enemy action, who enter the protected area to reside with relatives or friends.

(j) Members of the Merchant Navy holding Form C.R.S.52 or Form C.R.S.53 returning home on leave.

The list may be subject to variation according to operational requirements from time to time, and of which public notice will be given.

Chanctonbury included

Individual permits to enter a protected area will not be required by persons entitled to enter but any person may be called upon to satisfy the police or Service authorities that he or she comes within one of the exempted or permitted classes. A person who fails to do so will not only be required to leave the area but will be liable to prosecution.

In addition to Worthing, the Urban districts also coming within the protected belt include Shoreham and Southwick.

The rural districts take in Worthing and Chanctonbury.

The protected belt is about ten miles in depth – considerably deeper at some points – extending from the Wash, round the east and south coasts, to Lands End.

A London spokesman comments that the moment the ban can be lifted it shall be done.

"I can give no idea how long it will last but it will be for the shortest possible time," he said.

"I hope it will be the last physical ban imposed on us in our lifetime."

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